

TO THE FREEHOLDERS OF THE
COUNTIES OF LENOX AND
ADDINGTON.

GENTLEMEN,

In His Excellency's speech on Proroguing the Provincial Parliament, occurs the following Paragraph,

"I am therefore persuaded, that on your return to your respective counties, your influence may be usefully exerted in organizing societies for the purpose of affording information to emigrants which they so much require at the ports where they first disembark, and facilitating their dispersion in the districts in which they may readily obtain employment."

On this pretended authority, Messrs. Perry, and Bidwell, have not been ashamed to subscribe their names to the following Handbill:

To the Inhabitants of the Counties of Lennox & Addington.

GENTLEMEN,

As His Excellency, the *Lieutenant Governor*, in his speech at the recent prorogation of the Provincial Parliament, recommended that Societies should be formed in the different Counties of the Province for the purpose of affording information and assistance to emigrants; and as our fellow subjects in other Districts are meeting together in order to express their sentiments on various subjects of deep and general interest, and we have reason to believe that there is considerable excitement in the country, we think that it is our duty to suggest to you the propriety of your assembling at some convenient time and place, to take these matters into consideration.

We respectfully propose, therefore, that there should be a **GENERAL MEETING** of the inhabitants of these Counties, at Mr. John Fralick's Inn, in Fredericksburgh on Thursday, the sixteenth day of February, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, when the subjects to which we have alluded, and any thing else connected with the welfare and improvement of the Province, may be considered. As the meeting is to be held in consequence of His Excellency's suggestion, and as matters may be discussed at it of great importance to yourselves and your fellow subjects, we hope that you will generally attend; and that you will endeavour to be there punctually

at the hour mentioned. We are Gentlemen with great respect, your obedient servants,

PETER PERRY,
MARSHALL S. BIDWELL.

Lennox and Addington, February 2, 1832.

Whoever reads the two, will feel astonishment, that Messrs. Perry, and Bidwell, should have no more regard for their reputations, than deliberately to sign their names to a document, which their understandings, and their consciences, declare to them, to be *utterly, and infamously FALSE*. They say, "As the meeting is to be held in consequence of His Excellency's suggestion!!!!" Now just read the paragraph, from His Excellency's speech, and see, if he suggests, meetings of Counties, under "**CONSIDERABLE EXCITEMENT**," in order to express their sentiments on various subjects of deep and general interest." His Excellency, feeling a deep regard for the general interests of the country, suggests to the members of Assembly, that by their influence, they might form small societies of enlightened persons, the best calculated to give information to the Emigrants, as to the mode of their proceeding, generally, and to point out to them, the sections of the country, in which it would be most advantageous to them to settle; that every part of the Province may partake of the advantages derivable from the system of emigration now in process, instead of their being confined to some particular sections, by an overflux to some, and a total avoidance of others. This is the obvious, and only meaning of His Excellency's words. And this kind suggestion, is thus perverted to a deceptive purpose, by Messrs. Perry and Bidwell, of which Beelzebub himself, might glory in being the inventor. The fact is, the meeting now called, is in furtherance of the schemes hatching under the hot bad influence of a few discontented demagogues, of whom the *Christian Guardian* is the Organ, and McKenzie the besotted Tool.

Let those who would be guided by reason and justice, rather than by passion and prejudice, read the following Petition to the King, imagined by the Ryersons at York, and doubtless intended to be presented to you for your sanction and signatures at this projected meeting. The whole is given below, and the remarks of the Editor of the *Patriot* follow, paragraph by Para-

"How
can?"
-don

graph. Let both be read without prejudice, and, it is not difficult to predict, that the men who have had the audacity, thus to pervert the beneficent intentions of his Excellency, and falsify the meaning of his words; for the purpose of spreading discontent, and raising the excitement necessary to the promotion of their own ambitious designs, will incur the scorn and contempt, which ought ever to be the portion of such foul and villainous misdeeds.

A FRIEND TO JUSTICE.

UP AND BE DOING! This is the trite exhortation of Ryerson's "appeal to the people," put forward on his behalf, by William Lyon McKenzie, to which it appears, some few of his infatuated followers, have listened, and gathered together, in as huge a multitude as practicable, for the greater display of their wisdom. Mr. McKenzie says, this sage assemblage, formed a parallelogram, fifty heads wide, by one hundred and thirty heads long; by how many heads deep, or how many deep heads, as he says not, we are left wholly to conjecture. We wonder that a man of Mr. McKenzie's pretended penetration, should manifest such anxiety to multiply heads, since he has published the result of their united deliberations, in the form of two petitions; one, to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, and the other, to the Hon. the Commons of the United Kingdom, for, as the Tree is known by its fruit, so is the head by its brains, and McKenzie must know, if he have any brains of his own, that these two documents, furnish the most incontestible evidence, that if they be the production of a congregated mass of heads, forming but a quarter of the superficies, by himself asserted, they must be the shallowest of all conceivable shallow pates. Men, however, of more known varacity, and competency to judge, of numbers and space, have estimated these dangers after duping demagogues, at two hundred and fifty, men, women, and children.

This is somewhat consolatory, for it would drive every sensible man in the country to absolute despair, could he be forced to believe, that 6500 egregious fools, could be suddenly attracted together from the mere County of York; and we have to recollect that McKenzie's Paper, like the scenery of a Theatre, is intended for effect at a DISTANCE. Now, for an examination of the product, from the fermentation of this wedged mass of heat, and moisture; this amalgam of the fever of discontented men, with the tears of distressed, and oppressed widows, and orphans. From its frequent, vibrant coruscations, how awfully terrific, was expected the explosion. It has however, been, but the re-

enacting of the silly mountain, which after affecting for a whole month, all the pains of a distressful labor, blushed not, to protrude from its rumbling bowels, a saucy, thin gutted, starveling rogue of a mouse. The Petitions above named, are, according to McKenzie, the handy work of 6500 adult grumbler; but according to others of 250 fun loving bodies, of all sizes, sects, sexes & ages; but, as far as we can judge, of neither; but of Brahmia Ryerson, and his devoted tool William Lyon McKenzie. Whose ever handy work they are, let us dispassionately judge them. The following is the Petition, to the King's most Excellent Majesty.

Sire:

"We, Your Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects, inhabitants of your Province of Upper Canada, offer to Your Majesty the assurance of our unalterable attachment to Your Royal Person and Government; and of our unabated confidence in the skill and integrity of the statesmen who form Your Majesty's cabinet."

REMARKS.

Paragraph, by paragraph, our observations follow. On the above, we say, without fear of contradiction, that no signatures will be found to this petition, or address, or whatever it be called, but those of American Episcopal Methodists, the followers of Pope Ryerson, or American Presbyterians, the followers of Popissimo Ely, their wives, daughters, and infants. This Petition will be got up as was the grievance Petition of last July, of which George Ryerson was the bearer, and which according to the evidence of a real Wesleyan Methodist was managed as follows:

"Their grievance petitions were circulated by their Preachers, throughout the Province, and were generally presented for Signature after preaching. Mr. Evans in his zeal to increase the number of subscribers told his congregations, that he wanted the name of every one old enough to have a name in consequence of which in many places, fathers set down the names of children not more than two years old."

If therefore, His Majesty, takes this Petition for the petition of His "Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects" of his "Province of U. Canada," we can only say, that Majesty, was never so basely deceived.

"While we acknowledge with gratitude the many substantial blessings enjoyed by the Province under your Majesty's paternal sway, it is with feelings of deep regret that we have now to represent to your Majesty that the constitution guaranteed to us by the Parliament of Great Britain as the reward of the loyalty and attachment of the people to the British Crown, is to this day denied in prac-

fice, there being no real check upon the natural disposition of men in the possession of power to promote their own views and interests at our expense. One Lieutenant Governor follows another, Session succeeds to Session, and Parliament to Parliament, but the system remains the same; those laws which we most earnestly desire are refused to our petitions; and our reasonable expectations from the labours of our representatives, in co-operation with the other branches of the legislature, only terminate in disappointment. Legislation although very expensive is very unprofitable—few general measures that would be gratifying to the country ever receiving the sanction of laws.

REMARKS.

So, it peeps out, that we have some substantial blessings, for which these grumblers affect to be grateful, but evidently, "*with feelings of deep regret.*" [The Constitution guaranteed to them by the Parliament of Great Britain, as the reward of their "*loyalty and attachment*" Good Lord! "*isto this day denied in practice.*" And it is denied, BECAUSE, there is "*no real check* (in the petition to the Commons, it is called "*real CONSTITUTIONAL check*") upon the natural disposition of men in the possession of power to promote their own views and interests!!" What, then, is our House of Assembly? This is the only constitutional check, there can be, and a rational people, would desire no other. What check would Mr. Ryerson wish to establish? McKenzie's knife! bludgeon! and firebrand!! If the Representatives of the people are not a sufficient check for all purposes, there can be none found on earth, What occasion then, for snivelling for checks? "One Lieutenant Governor, follows another!" what of that? there is only one behind, and one before, and is that a thing with which to pester Majesty?

Session succeeds to session! and Parliament to Parliament! Pray, who knows not that? And, alas! "the system remains the same!" "What system?" His Majesty will ask, "you tell me of no system, and yet say, the system remains the same!! Pray, what Solomon has drawn up this petition?" "*Those Laws, which we most earnestly desire are refused to our petitions.*"

Which laws? This reminds us, of a Gardener, saying in our presence, to his employer who wanted information; as they both stood outside of a garden fence; "that is the Battersea, and that is the real Dutch Savoy;" pointing to a bed of many thousands of cabbage plants, "Which?" said the enquirer. "Why those" says the gardener, "that stands almost close together, with the Early

Yorks, and Drumheads between 'em." "How the Devil can I find out which you mean?" said the employer, "come into the garden and show me!" So, grateful grumblers, you will find, that you are not to humbug Majesty with generalities; no, no, you must point out, exactly, *which laws you mean.* If, therefore, you would take counsel, from one who gathered knowledge from the gardener and his employer, while he was but yet a child, and who in his heart wishes you right well, you will demand of the fabricators of this absurd petition, to point out precisely the matters and things of which they tell you, you ought to complain. If they be real grievances, they will be heard with attention; and redressed with promptitude. But, believe us, you can neither deceive His Majesty, nor his Ministers. That your reasonable expectations, terminate in disappointment, is greatly to be regretted; but whether they be reasonable, or not, who can tell, since you do not state them. Here again, you will have to apply to Mr. Ryerson to know *what your expectations are* which when you have discovered, let us know and we will judge whether they be reasonable or not. For the matter, of Legislation, being expensive, every body knows that, as well as you; and for the profit of it, there is vastly too much of it in the market to be very profitable. This, however, the King cannot help; it arising, solely from the cause, you have above stated, "*there being no real check upon the natural disposition of men.*"

"An experience of forty years has afforded ample proof, that an intermediate branch of the Legislature, between the Lieutenant Governor and the people, appointed by the crown on the recommendation of persons in office here or in England, has not been advantageous to the province, but the contrary. We consider, the Legislative Council, as now constituted, a grievous burthen upon the colony, the cause of much dissatisfaction to the people, and as being deeply interested in perpetuating the greatest abuses, and a principal means of shielding the executive government from deserved odium."

REMARKS.

However desirable it may be, to alter the mode of constituting, or to change the materials of the Legislative Council. This, is not the mode of proceeding to effect those objects. The House of Assembly is the proper medium of representation, on these matters; but supposing the Assembly so corrupt as to connive at, because participating in any abuses chargeable upon the Legislative Council, and it be the beginning of a Parliament, so that the people have no opportunity of changing

their representatives, then it would behoove the people themselves to petition the King. We do not mean by *the people*, this, or that brawling sect, which are never more, than a fractional part of any people, and though always the most noisy, the most contemptible; and noisy, *because* contemptible. But hark ye! It would not do to say, "*We consider the Legislative Council a grievous burthen upon the Colony,*" and, "*the cause of much dissatisfaction to the people.*" You should be made to understand, that **WHYS**. and **WHEREFORES** are particularly necessary things, in the settlement of advantageous changes in governments. We wonder you County-of-York men, should be so short, as not to know this. Many of you, doubtless, act in the capacity of Jurors, and would the least intelligent of you, give a verdict of *guilty* against an alleged criminal, though he were thrust into your presence by never so vast, or infuriated a mob? What a shocking departure from common sense, is here! But you are left no time to reflect. Ryerson & his miserable tool McK. absolutely blow you about as though they were a whirlwind & you straw. Good God! Now just insist, on knowing from these deeply read gentlemen, **HOW** the Legislative Council, is such a grievous burthen, and **WHY**, it is the cause of so much dissatisfaction to the people: Then, be not ashamed to name it in the petition, and you will be at once on firm ground, now you are on a bog, in chase of a *will o' the wisp*. You say, that the Legislative Council, is, "*a principal means, of shielding the Executive Government from deserved odium.*" You do not know, that this is sheer nonsense. "*Odium*" means, the quality of provoking hate. So, the Legislative Council *shields the Executive from the quality of provoking hate*; that is, prevents it, from having that quality, so that the Executive must be respected and beloved. This, we know, is not, what Ryerson and McKenzie, mean, that you should tell the King, but it is what, they unknowingly, would make you tell him, although they mean, exactly the contrary, but fail to show any reason, why the Executive should be such an object of their infernal hostility, except inasmuch as it leaked out in McKenzie's defence, on his second expulsion, when he exclaimed "**HAVE I ANY OF THESE JOBS?**" And, now, think; for heaven's sake, only think! how very ridiculous you will appear in the eye of his Majesty, after saying that forty years experience has afforded you "*ample proof,*" if you notwithstanding, neglect to state any.

"Our present Lieutenant Governor has" followed closely the footsteps of his immediate

predecessor; he has neglected and refused to pursue a conciliatory and impartial course of conduct towards the several classes and denominations of Your Majesty's subjects, and on several occasions shewn the most marked disregard for our constitutional rights; seldom or never recommending the adoption of those general enactments for our good government, for the passage of which the people have manifested the utmost anxiety; he has assumed the character of a zealous and active political partizan of one religious sect or denomination of christians, comparatively few in number; and proved by his whole public conduct, that he does not understand, and is therefore, incapable of promoting the best interests of this important colony."

REMARKS.

"Base envy, withers at another's joy, and hates that excellence, it cannot reach." Never, was this sublime aphorism, more pointedly illustrated than in this hellish limb of this childish petition. Will the *people* of Upper Canada sign this? Then, may they all be turned into hares, the Brahmins into hounds to hunt them, while Ryerson is Huntsman, and McKenzie Whipper in. This member of the Petition, like all the preceding, is deficient in the main particulars, the *whys*, and the *wherefores*. Our present Lieutenant Governor, *has done those things he ought not to have done, and left undone those things he ought to have done*. For instance, he has "*seldom, or never,*" recommended the adoption of those general enactments." This, is certainly a whopping sin, for undoubtedly those general enactments, would have promoted "*our good government.*" He has neglected, and refused to pursue a conciliatory and impartial course of conduct towards **THE SEVERAL** classes and denominations of your Majesty's subjects. This is heinous; but what class, or denomination among the *several*, which recollect, means **ALL**, has complained of a want of conciliatory conduct on the part of His Excellency? Why, no class at all? An impudent, and scurvy faction, called the American Episcopal Methodist Conference, with Ryerson at their head, and McKenzie at their tail, arrogantly assuming to be the legitimate organs of the people, have thus complained, *but no class of the people whatever*; nor will, nor can any class complain.

His Excellency "has assumed the character of a zealous and active political partizan of **ONE** religious sect." Admirable! just above we are informed, that he had actually refused to be conciliatory, to the several classes, forgetting that the several classes of His Majesty's subjects, means **ALL** the classes of His Majesty's subjects. This is

like his seldom or never recommending those general enactments, "for the passage of which although "the people have manifested the utmost anxiety," no man knows which they are, to this hour. All these grievous omissions, and commissions, PROVE, that His Excellency, "does not understand, and is therefore incapable of promoting, the best interests of this important Colony !!! The King, will want nothing but proof; but we counsel you people of York County, to see that you do not substitute for PROOF, the shameless and unsupported assertions, of paltry men, of whose utter baseness, and dereliction from principle, and barbarous ignorance of their mother tongue, no better PROOF can be, than this their rascally petition, framed, to degrade you, and exalt themselves.

"The House of Assembly, elected under the influence and operation of the system detailed to Your Majesty in the address of the people of York, of the 16th of July last have forfeited public confidence by spending the greater part of the last and present sessions in angry and personal disputes on a most frivolous questions; neglecting to consider those matters which are of the most vital importance to the province, in regard to our constitutional rights, and educational, agricultural and commercial interests; refusing to amend the state of the representation, or make those other improvements in existing laws respecting which numerous petitions have been presented by their constituents; voting permanent salaries to public functionaries upon an extravagant unsuitable scale, while the executive government continues to assume the right to dispose of a large portion of the provincial without the consent of the legislature; interfering with the periodical press, and contributing their aid to put down the free expression of public opinion; expelling and re-expelling a member returned by the most populous county in the Province, because a newspaper of which he is proprietor had expressed unfavourable opinions concerning their public conduct; creating great excitement and dissatisfaction in the minds of the people; and wasting the public revenues they were elected to watch over and protect."

REMARKS.

We at once turn this paragraph, like McKenzie has turned his Press; upside down, and so begin at the bottom, and work gradually down to the top. The House of Assembly is charged with "interfering with the periodical Press," with "contributing their aid, to put down the free expression of public opinion" with "expelling and re-expelling a member, BECAUSE, a newspaper of which

he is proprietor, had expressed UNFAVORABLE OPINIONS concerning their public conduct." Now, can any man in the Province, friend or foe of McKenzie, say, in the presence of his God, that, a single word of this is true?

We venture to say, not one. It is notorious, he was expelled from the Assembly, not as an *Editor of a Newspaper*, but, as a *Member* of that Assembly; not, for expressing "unfavorable opinions," but, for the most atrocious insolence; and by a right, which, Mor the good, and safety of us all, is inherent, in that body, to punish any blackguard miscreants, who have the audacity to insult them.— This, is a right, with which, no King of Great Britain will ever interfere; a right, with which no people of common understanding would ever wish a King to interfere; and a right, which if destroyed, would drag down, in its destruction, every vestige, of every other right. The people, whose representatives, have not this right, can have no rights themselves.

Who then, but the most stupid, perverse, and ignorant of men, could be induced to sign a petition to the King, containing a clause which is a virtual renunciation of every right dear to man? Supposing all the rest said of the Assembly in this paragraph, were true, as it is false, we would forgive them for so nobly preserving unimpaired, this precious right. Who was that Roman General, who was decreed honours by the Republic, for merely saying, *all was not lost?* Varo, or some such name, who contrary to the remonstrances of his colleagues; (they commanded day about) fought with Hannibal, the battle of Cannæ, & endured as pernicious a defeat, as ever general sustained; yet for simply manifesting that he had a mind unprone to despair, he was decreed honours instead of punishment, which he in fact deserved. What amount then of thanks is due to our Assembly, who have sustained untouched, a right, which is the foundation of our existence as a free people, though assailed by the most insidious and clamorous faction that ever disturbed the equanimity of any people. when nothing is charged against that same Assembly, but some small items of connivance, at some trifling speculations of some body, in pounds, shillings, and pence, in some place, and at some time unknown, and when, not a shadow of proof, is offered in support of the charge? With men of sense, these observations will have their weight, but with you, county of York men, we know not how it will be, for these Ryerson and McKenzie, have so beset you, and punched you about the intellectual regions, that verily it is to be feared, that with the sparks they have knocked

out your eyes, have fled your brains, so that you will not recognize, either form, weight or colour, but must be content to do, and say, and think, just as they tell you. All the harm we wish you is, that you had honesterr Mentors.

"Numerous petitions, signed by thousands of the Landowners and other inhabitants, have been laid before the House of Assembly praying that the dangerous monopoly enjoyed by the Bank of Upper Canada, an institution under the control of the Government and its Officers, might not be continued, or strengthened; and on the second day, of this present month, the freeholders of the county in which the bank is situated, returned a representative expressly pledged to oppose the extension of its influence, which said member was expelled immediately afterwards on the plea of political libel."

"In consequence of his expulsion, the bill to give a certain class of politicians here, the power of circulating another million two hundred thousand dollars of paper money in the province, without security against mismanagement, or adequate checks upon their proceedings, passed the House of Assembly; a resolution for securing the country in a case of mismanagement having been negatived by the Speaker's casting voice, although supported by members representing a majority of the people of the province. The Stockholders and Bank Solicitor voted on the question, although objected to as being personally interested; and the Legislative Council affords no check whatever upon such improvident Legislation, a majority of its members being personally and deeply interested in the continuance and extension of this powerful monopoly."

The proceedings of the House of Assembly having occasioned much dissatisfaction and created great excitement throughout the colony, particularly the attempts interfere with the liberty of the press, and the trials and expulsions of a member who is the proprietor and conductor of one of the public journals, a proposition was made to address the Lieutenant Governor to dissolve the Legislature, and enable the members to vindicate their characters by submitting their conduct to their constituents. Those of them who had supported the freedom of the press were in favor of a dissolution; while the others, who had voted their fellow representative guilty of libel, were to a man unwilling to return to their electors."

"Having briefly enumerated, or referred to, what we consider the principal causes of the present discontents, we would earnestly entreat that those measures may be early ad-

opted which shall appear best calculated to restore this country to a state of tranquility, quiet and confidence."

REMARKS.

Here we take four paragraphs, which for their falsehoods, misrepresentations, egotistical assumptions, and humbug, to unravel, to explain, and to refute, would be unprofitable repetition. Let us at once, to the items prayed for. They are as follows.

We humbly pray Your Majesty—

1.—That a new Provincial Parliament may be called with the least possible delay.

2.—That it may be recommended to the Imperial Parliament to pass a bill for rendering the Legislative Council elective by the people.

3.—That the present Lieutenant Governor may be removed, and the administration of affairs committed to a person accustomed to civil rule, who would act heartily and understandingly with the people's representatives in endeavouring to remedy those abuses which tend to disturb the quiet and endanger the prosperity of the Province.

4.—That the royal assent may be withheld from the Upper Canada Bank Stock Bill of the present session should it pass the Legislative Council and be reserved; or, that it may be immediately annulled and cancelled should the Lieutenant Governor have assented to it in Your Majesty's name.

5.—That a favourable answer may be given to the petitions of the people, adopted in July, August, September and October last, praying for a more equal representation; the promotion of education; the abolition of the law of primogeniture; the establishment of efficient popular checks on the expenditure of the whole provincial revenue; the regulation, by statute, of the land granting department; and certain other enactments calculated to promote the welfare of the Colony.

These are the items, which are to make us perfectly happy, and contented. "Sartin," as Jonathan says, for the new parliament, will restore, to our afflicted Province, in which the petitioners enjoy, so many substantial blessings, "the great talents" of the great luminary Mc. Kenzie the chiefest of them all. The recommending that the Legislative council be elective, will stop every avenue, to corruption. The removal of the present Governor, will make room for Ryerson, who has been used to "civil rule," and to act "understandingly" with the American Brahmins.

The withholding of the Royal assent from the Upper Canada Bank Stock Bill, will

lessen our available funds, a hundred or two of thousand pounds, and a favorable answer given to the grievance petitions of the women and children of the American Episcopal Methodists, sent home in July, & procured as set forth at the outset, of this article, and then Huzza! we shall all be as happy as Kings, and as puffing, and swaggering as McKenzie, with his ill begotten Medal. Now for the peroration!

"The people of Upper Canada, may it please Your Majesty, are amongst the most faithful and loyal subjects of the British Crown. In their support and maintenance of your royal government they are actuated not only by a sense of duty, but also by a strong and lively feeling of sincere attachment. In laying their complaints at the foot of the throne they would ask permission to represent to Your Majesty, that they consider it of the utmost importance that the attachment and connexion existing between this beautiful and growing colony and the Mother Country should be strengthened by the ties of mutual affection and mutual interest; and that the best mode of

strengthening and perpetuating that connexion consists in the adoption of such measures as will most effectually secure the affections and good will of the Canadian People."

"How happy it will make the King, to be told what loyal folks we be, that sign this petition." Thus, will tell you, Ryerson, and McKenzie. But the king happens to know, that we are about the best off, of any people upon earth, therefore, instead of making him happy, it must grieve him to find, there is such a pack of discontented mortals, under his paternal rule. The King however, though at so great a distance, will not be imposed upon by empty vain, assertions; much less should we, who are here upon the spot to judge from facts before our eyes. The true intent, and tendency of this petition, is here laid bare, so, that he that runs, may read, and our solemn counsel to all true subjects is, to BEWARE, every man that signs it. Let Ryerson and McKenzie, copy these strictures and show their fallacy, if they can. Let this be the test of the value of this petition.

